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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: February 8, 2007

TO: Examiner Lois L. Zheng
Group Art Unit: 1742
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/042,549
For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS
AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME
Our Ref.: CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01)

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. 

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-571-273-8300

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 26

Items Attached: Amendment -- 23 pages
Petition for 3-month Extension of Time -- 1 page
Fee Transmittal -- 1 page

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Kim Blum
Name (Print)


Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Michaluk)	Examiner:	Lois L. Zheng
)		
Application Number:	10/042,549)	Group Art Unit:	1742
)		
Filed:	January 9, 2002)	Confirmation No.:	5470
)		
Docket No.:	CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01))		

For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 8, 2007

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 10, 2006, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making the response due on or before February 10, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims begin at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin at page 14 of this paper.